

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Steve W. Braun

SERIAL NO.: 09/820,973

GROUP ART UNIT: 2874

FILED: March 29, 2001

EXAMINER:

FOR: OPTICAL TRANSPORT SYSTEM

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 50777/251099

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with Rules 56, 97 and 98 of the Rules of Practice in Patent Cases (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98), the publications listed on the modified Form PTO-1449 are enclosed with this submission for consideration by the Examiner.

Submission of the references provided in this Information Disclosure is not intended to constitute an admission that any reference referred to herein is prior art for this invention unless specially designated as such. Also, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

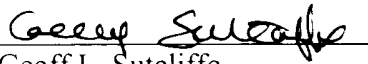
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence, along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on this 26TH day of November, 2002 with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Emily N. Guida

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first office action on the merits of the application (37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3)); therefore, no fee is believed to be due. If a fee is due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fee and any additional fees that may be due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,


Geoff L. Sutcliffe
Reg. No. 36,348

Date: November 26, 2002

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
Suite 2800, 1100 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-4530
(404) 815-6530



Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 50777/251099	SERIAL NO. 09/820,973
MATERIAL INFORMATION STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT Steve W. Braun	
		FILING DATE March 29, 2001	GROUP 26287433

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3,887,876	06/03/75	Zeidler			
	3,943,358	03/09/76	Reymond et al.			
	4,435,849	03/06/84	Ilgner et al.			
	4,731,784	03/15/88	Keller et al			
	4,829,593	05/09/89	Hara			
	4,947,134	08/07/90	Olsson			
	4,958,354	09/18/90	Urakami et al.			
	5,080,505	01/14/92	Epworth			
	5,117,196	05/26/92	Epworth et al.			
	5,296,957	03/22/94	Takahashi et al.			
	5,502,589	03/26/96	Yamamoto et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	GB 2 255 683 A	11/11/92	Great Britain			
	DE 30 07 958	09/17/81	German*			X
	GB 2 073 877 A	10/21/81	Great Britain			

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER: DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*For English version see related Great Britain Application No. 2 073 877 A